Amendments to the Specification:

On page 2, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 11 through line 18 as follows:

The phosphor $MSi_2O_2N_2$:Eu (M = Ca, Sr, Ba) which is known from EP patent application 02 021 117.8, in the case of the Sr-dominated embodiment with $M = Sr_{(1-x-y)}Ba_yCa_x$ with $0 \leq x + y < 0.5$, referred to below as Sr Sion, is difficult to control. Although some test conditions give excellent results, there has hitherto been no guiding principle as to how to obtain desired results in a reliable way. An additional factor is a certain tendency of the efficiency of the phosphor to be reduced and the color locus to vary excessively under high thermal loads. The following are particularly preferred: $y = 0$ with $0 \leq x \leq 0.3$ and $x = 0$ with [[$0 \leq y \leq 0.1$]] $\underline{0 \leq y \leq 0.3}$.

On page 7, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 9 through line 16 as follows:

The Sion compounds with M = (Sr, Ba), preferably without Ba or with up to [[10%]] <u>30%</u> of Ba, represent efficient phosphors with a wide range of emission maxima. These maxima are generally at a shorter wavelength than in the case of pure Sr Sion, preferably between 520 and 565 nm. Moreover, the color space which can be achieved can be widened by adding small amounts (preferably up to 30 mol%) of Ca and/or zinc; this shifts the emission maxima toward the longer-wave region compared to pure Sr Sion, and by partially (up to 25 mol%) replacing Si with Ge and/or Sn.